

REMEMBERING REVEREND
WILLIAM KELLER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and ministry of Reverend William Keller.

Reverend Keller faithfully served as a pastor for nearly 70 years in both Illinois and my home state of Indiana. While attending Olivet Nazarene College in 1943, he founded the East Side Church of the Nazarene in Kankakee, Illinois. He later continued his education at both Ball State University and Liberty University.

Reverend Keller was a dear friend of mine, and I mourn the loss of this great public servant. His record of achievement in his community and around the country is extensive and includes serving as Executive Chairman for World Wide Pictures, attending Billy Graham's School of Evangelism, and participating in the Conference on Evangelism in Amsterdam among others. Reverend Keller was also a member of the planning committee for the Leighton Ford and the Lowell Lundstrom Crusades in Muncie, and he organized several open air festivals.

In 1953 he founded the William C. Keller Construction Co. that built churches, office buildings, service stations and residential housing, and Reverend Keller also developed the Keller West Addition in Muncie.

Beginning in 1969, Reverend Keller served as President of the Delaware County Evangelistic Association. Among his many involvements, he was also a member of the Board of Social Concern for the National Association of Evangelicals; past Governor and Lt. Governor of Division H, District 11 of Toastmasters International; past chairman of the steering committee of National Issues Forum; and he served several years as a volunteer Probation Officer and court appointed Special Advocate for children.

I offer my most sincere condolences to his bride of 73 years, Irene; their six children: Martha Lovern, Harold Keller, Dave Keller, Paul Keller, Don Keller, and Bill Keller, Jr.; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-two great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and his siblings Charles, James, and Reba. While the loss of Reverend Keller's selfless work in the community will be deeply felt, heaven is richer with his passing.

MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND
JOB CREATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3630, the GOP Tax Extenders Package. This bill does nothing to create jobs, support the middle class or stimulate our economy. Instead, the Republicans have decided to play politics at the expense of ninety-nine percent of American families.

As we wrap up this year's legislative business, individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits, physicians anxiously awaiting certainty that they will be adequately reimbursed for treatment they deliver to Medicare patients and millions of middle class families facing a tax increase are depending on us to put politics aside and act responsibly. Unfortunately, the GOP Tax Extenders Package is mere political theater that takes an irresponsible approach to solving these issues.

Mr. Speaker, President Obama called on Congress to extend the payroll tax deduction in order to save working Americans an average of \$1,500 over the next year. If Congress does not act by the end of the year, American families making an average of \$50,000 per year will see their taxes raised \$1,000. At a time when the average American is struggling to make ends meet, it is essential that we extend the payroll tax cut to ensure that middle class American families can spend the money they've earned. Lowering the rate Americans contribute to Social Security out of their paychecks will help stimulate consumer spending, create jobs and revive our economy.

While the Republican bill we are considering today extends the current payroll tax cut by two percent and addresses the SGR "doc fix" for two years, there are a number of ideological poison pills attached to this bill that simply make this measure unacceptable. First, the bill cuts Medicare provider rates by over \$21 billion and significantly increases the number of Medicare beneficiaries required to pay higher premiums for services they need.

Second, the bill would cut over \$21 billion from Affordable Care Act programs, which will increase the ranks of the uninsured by 170,000 Americans. Although we are making progress in ensuring that more Americans have access to quality and affordable health insurance plans, the Republicans are recklessly attempting to roll back provisions of the Affordable Care Act that have proven successful at increasing access to healthcare. The Prevention and Public Health Trust Fund, an essential piece of the Affordable Care Act tasked with promoting healthy lifestyles and prevention treatment to keep Americans healthy, would suffer a deleterious \$8 billion cut.

Further, this bill would roll back the amount of time benefits are provided to recipients of emergency unemployment compensation. The current program allows beneficiaries to receive unemployment compensation for up to 99 weeks; however, the Republican Tax Extenders Package would lower that amount of time to 59 weeks. As we are all aware, the current job market is extraordinarily bleak. With the unemployment level in my district hovering around twenty percent, shortening the length of time benefits are provided would have a devastating impact on those who rely on unemployment compensation as their main source of income.

Mr. Speaker, cutting back emergency unemployment compensation from 99 to 59 weeks hurts the most vulnerable members of our society. That is why I submitted an amendment to this legislation that would extend current unemployment benefits for 2012, if the implementation of subtitle B of title II is found to have a disproportionately adverse effect on workers aged 55 and older by the Secretary of Labor. Had my amendment been made in order and adopted, it would have provided

much needed relief to job-seeking seniors in this tough economic environment.

Time is running out. Republican brinkmanship on must-pass legislation continues to damage job creation and create uncertainty for businesses and the markets. In their Pledge to America, House Republicans promised to focus on jobs and keep extraneous and controversial provisions out of must-pass legislation. This bill is yet another example of their broken promises to the American people.

For all these reasons I cannot support H.R. 3630, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE ADKINS BROTHERS
FOR ONE HUNDRED FOUR
YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, in southern West Virginia, "family" has a very special and sacred meaning. Its definition goes far beyond the traditional; more than a group of individuals related by blood or marriage. It is an ideal that transcends all West Virginians; an institution protected, trusted and revered by all. It is the core thread woven into and throughout the fabric of the values we treasure most.

Today, I rise to honor a family of West Virginians from the Logan County community of Pine Creek, in the coalfields of southern West Virginia. They are nine brothers, nine of the eleven sons of the late Olive and Oscar Adkins, who collectively served in our Nation's military for more than 100 years. This is truly a "band of brothers" for which our Nation owes a debt of gratitude.

Shakespeare outlined the honor and drew distinction for the Band of Brothers in the famous St. Crispin's Day speech, a motivational speech delivered to troops about to enter battle in Act IV of the play, Henry V:

Old men forget; yet all shall be forgot, but he'll remember with advantages what feats he did that day. Then shall our names, familiar . . . as household words . . . be in their flowing cups freshly remembered.

This story shall the good man teach his son . . . from this day to the ending of the world, But we in it shall be remembered—we few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he today that sheds his blood with me; shall be my brother . . .

Fate was kind to the nine Adkins brothers. None were seriously injured, and all returned home safely, although many who served with them were not so lucky. All the Adkins brothers were honorably discharged, and all were proud to serve their country. The pride in this remarkable record of military service is shared by their parents, two other brothers, Hobart and Robert, and four sisters, Madeline, Ruth, Lyndell, and Iris.

The nine who served include Harvey, who was in the U.S. Army during World War II from 1943 to 1946; Jason, who was in the U.S. Army at the end of World War II in 1945 and 1946, then again from 1952 to 1955 during the Korean Conflict; Leon, who served in the Air Force from 1948 to 1952 in the Korean Conflict; Billy, who served in both the Army and Air Force from 1948 to 1954; Lowell, who